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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/976,673	10/12/2001	Sergey Lukyanov	CLON-028	1096
41064	7590	07/28/2004	EXAMINER	
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS (BD BIOSCIENCES)			MONDESI, ROBERT B	
200 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD, SUITE 200			ART UNIT	
MENLO PARK, CA 94025			PAPER NUMBER	

1653

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

844 -

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/976,673

Applicant(s)

LUKYANOV ET AL.

Examiner

Robert B Mondesi

Art Unit

1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on October 10, 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 13-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10-12, 18 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Applicants' election of Invention I, Claims 1-12 and 17-19, with a further election of SEQ ID NO: 11 in response to the restriction requirement mailed June 16, 2004 is acknowledged. Because applicants did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Claims 13-17 are withdrawn by the examiner for being directed to non-elected subject matter (claim 17 is directed to claim 13 which is drawn to a polypeptide). **Claims 1-12 and 18-19** are presently under examination.

#### ***Priority***

The current application filed on October 12, 2001 claims priority to provisional applications 60/306,131 and 60/240,0418 filed on July 16, 2001 and October 12, 2000.

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The IDS(s) filed March 05, 2003 and February 11, 2002 have been received and are signed and considered, a copy of each PTO-1449 is attached to the following document.

#### ***Claim Objections***

**Claims 10-12 and 18-19** are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, **claims 10-12 and 18-19** have not been further treated on the merits.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**Claims 7-9** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The claims are drawn to functional derivatives/fragments of a nucleic acid that encodes a *Stichodactylidaen chromoprotein*. The claims do not require that the encoded polypeptide possess any particular conserved structure, or other distinguishing feature, such as a specific biological activity. Thus, the claims are drawn to a genus of encoded polypeptides that is defined by an unclear functional relationship to a *Stichodactylidaen chromoprotein*. To provide adequate written description and evidence of possession of a claimed genus, the specification must provide sufficient distinguishing identifying characteristics of the genus. The factors to be considered include disclosure of complete or partial structure, physical and/or chemical properties, functional characteristics, structure/function correlation, methods of making the claimed product, and any combination thereof. In this case, the only factor present in the claim that is

Art Unit: 1653

sufficiently disclosed is a partial structure in the form of a recitation of percent identity. The specification does not identify any particular portion of the structure that must be characteristics of the claimed genus are not described. The only adequately described species is the nucleic acid sequence that encodes a *Stichodactylidaen chromoprotein* and no active variants/fragments are disclosed. Accordingly, the specification does not provide adequate written description of the claimed genus.

*Vas-Cath Inc. v. Mahurkar*, 19USPQ2d 1111, clearly states, "applicant must convey with reasonable clarity to those skilled in the art that, as of the filing date sought, he or she was in possession of the invention. The invention is, for purposes of the "written description" inquiry, whatever is now claimed." (See page 1117.) The specification does not it clearly allow persons of ordinary skill in the art to recognize that [he or she] invented what is claimed." (See *Vas-Cath* at page 1116), As discussed above, the skilled artisan cannot envision the detailed chemical structure of the encompassed genus of the encoded polypeptides, and therefore conception is not achieved until reduction to practice has occurred, regardless of the complexity or simplicity of the method of isolation. Adequate written description requires more than a mere statement that it is part of the invention and reference to a potential method of isolating it. The compound itself is required. See *Fiers v. Revel*, 25 USPQ2d 1601 at 1606 (CAFC 1993) and *Amgen Inc. v. Chugai Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.*, 18 USPQ2d 1016. One cannot describe what one has not conceived. See *Fiddes v. Baird*, 30 USPQ2d 1481 at 1483. In *Fiddes*, claims directed to mammalian FGF's were found to be unpatentable due to lack of written description for that broad class. The specification

Art Unit: 1653

provided only the bovine sequence. Therefore, only the nucleic acid sequence that encodes a *Stichodactylidaen chromoprotein*, but not the full breadth of the claim meets the written description provision of 35 U. S.C. 112, first paragraph. Applicant is reminded that *Vas-cath* makes clear that the written description provision of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is severable from its enablement provision.

**Claims 8-9** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. With regard to **claims 8-9**, directed to a polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions to SEQ ID NO: 11, Applicants have not sufficiently described the meaning of the term "stringent". Nucleic acid hybridization assays are extremely sensitive to the conditions in which they are performed. The buffer composition, pH, temperature, length of time, salt concentrations, quality and source of template nucleic acid, are all variables which determine the reproducibility of a given hybridization experiment. Given the unpredictability of the art and the nature of hybridization experiments in general, it is not sufficient to cite a laboratory reference which contains many different hybridization conditions which may be construed as being "stringent". The definition of "stringency" as it pertains to hybridization conditions is subject to interpretation and is different from laboratory to laboratory. Therefore, without a clear and explicit recitation of what conditions are meant to be included by the term "stringent", and without a clear and explicit recitation of the conditions which were

Art Unit: 1653

actually used by Applicants in isolating polynucleotides which hybridize to SEQ ID NO: 11, the skilled artisan would not be able to practice the claimed invention and would not be reasonably apprised of the metes and bounds of the claimed invention. Without such guidance, the experimentation left to those skilled in the art is undue. Including in the claims the exact nature of the hybridization conditions used to isolate the claimed polynucleotides would aid in overcoming this portion of the rejection.

**Claim 5** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In **claim 5**, the phrase "substantially the same" is indefinite because it has not been defined in the claims or the specification of the present application and is subjective terminology.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

**Claims 1, 3 and 5-7** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The nucleic acid molecule as claimed, has a nucleotide sequence duplicative of that of the nucleic acid that encodes *Stichodactylidaen chromoprotein* or the cellular precursor thereof and possesses the biological and functional properties of the naturally occurring nucleic acid that encodes *Stichodactylidaen chromoprotein* and therefore does not constitute patentable subject

Art Unit: 1653

matter absent recitation of "isolated and purified" in the preamble. Applicants use the phrase, "in other than its natural environment" which is more subjective than the suggested "isolated and purified" language; Examiner recommends amendment of the language to avoid misinterpretation of the claim.

See *American Wood v. Fiber Disintegrating Co.*, 90 U. S. 566 (1974); *American Fruit Growers v. Brogdex Co.*, 283 U. S. 1 (1931); *Funk Brothers Seed Co. v. Kalo Inoculant*, 33 U. S. 127 (1948); and *Diamond v. Chakrabarty*, 206 USPQ 193 (1980).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

**Claims 1-9** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsien et al. US Patent 6,432,379. Tsien et al. disclose a nucleic acid sequence that is 100% identical to a nucleotide sequence of at least 10 residues in length of SEQ ID NO:11



Art Unit: 1653

(nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:6 of US Patent 6,432,379, nucleotide 354 to 364)

(**present claims 1-9**). Thus, Tsien et al. teach all the elements of **claims 1-9** and these claims are anticipated under 35 USC 102(b).

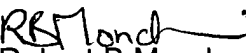
**Conclusion**


No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B Mondesi whose telephone number is 571-272-0956. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jon Weber can be reached on 571-272-0925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
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07-22-09

  
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